

## Superintendent Report for January 23, 2017 Board of Education Meeting

The in-service Baldwin, Eudora and Wellsville had at the beginning of the month was very well put together. I have had many positive comments about the day. Having Dr. Watson, the Kansas Education Commissioner speak was a highlight of the day. I know the teachers were very high on the collaboration time they received. Having collaboration time in our district is different than having two other districts involved. The reports I have received were very positive about this time. Plans are already being made for next year's in-service.

State testing is just around the corner. The state has decreased the amount of testing we will be taking by 60%. We will focus on math and reading for state assessments this year. We are excited about this change for our teachers and our students. Our math curriculum is very closely related to the state assessments and expect to do better this year on these assessments. As we have discussed, it can take some time to see results from a new curriculum implemented. Students and teachers need to have time to make the necessary changes needed to have positive major results. We have noticed a small increase scores, but are hoping for a larger positive mark this year.

The Legislators are back in session now. Please take the time to speak with your legislators on important topics, education funding being one that is most dear to my heart. I'm sure there are others that each of us have. If you need phone numbers, email addresses or websites to contact them, please let me know.

District accreditation is continuing to move forward. Our schools are in good shape to start the process. At our April in-service we have plans to focus on what our process will look like. Greenbush is coming in to help with the process and get us moving forward with other areas we will need help with. Greenbush has been a valuable asset to our district, and I'm very proud to have them when we need them.